

June 2003

Department of Pharmacy

Dear Colleague:

In an effort to help our patients being served by a civilian prescriber, we have compiled a list of medications available at Madigan along with selected hospital policies. Please remember that this information is current as of the date indicated and it is subject to change at any time. This list is alphabetical by generic name except for a few combination products, which are listed by trade name. Also, you can view this list including all updated changes on the Internet at the following address: www.mamc.amedd.army.mil/pharmacy/pharmhome.htm.

Madigan only accepts prescriptions signed with an original signature in ink (no faxed, stamped, copied, computer generated or signed-for-signatures accepted). The prescriber's name, address and telephone number (typed or legibly printed) must appear on all prescriptions. In addition, the prescriber's DEA or License Number must be provided if not already on file at MAMC. We are not authorized to increase the quantity of medication above what the prescriber orders.

The Medical Center's Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee establish policies and therapeutic guidelines at Madigan. (Please look for the footnotes.) These standards apply to both military and civilian prescribers. There are specific dispensing guidelines covering antibiotics, NSAID's, Antihypertensive, H-2 blockers, and antilipidemic agents, among others. An intervention pharmacist may contact your office to verify that our guidelines have been met. To speed the process, you may wish to include the diagnosis and specific patient information on the back of the prescription. For further information, the intervention pharmacist may be contacted at (253) 966-1106.

Madigan dispenses most items as generic. To help us help your patients please write your prescriptions authorizing generic substitutions. Items marked with a "?" have known bioequivalence problems. We do not substitute these products and the prescription must be written by generic name or trade name listed.

General Dispensing Limits:

Long-acting drugs, with very few exceptions, must be written as a once daily dose. (Examples: Lisinopril, Benazepril, Atenolol, Doxazosin)

MAX of 90 days and up to 1-year's worth of refills for chronic meds (after the dose is stabilized).

MAX of 30 days supply and two (2) refills on schedule III-V. *Schedule II* pain meds are limited to a 7-day supply except for chronic pain patients (such as cancer patients), who can receive up to a 30-day supply. (The reason for an exception must be noted on the prescription.) The number of doses per day must be specified with either specific time intervals or max per day. 'PRN' designation without further specifics is unacceptable. ADHD meds may be written for up to a 90-day supply and anticonvulsant medications may be written for up to a 60-day supply.

Ophthalmics - Limited to three (3) bottles or a minimum of a 60-day supply, whichever is greater.

Metered Dose Inhalers - Limited to six (6) containers or minimum of a 60-day supply, whichever is greater.

Tablets and Capsules - Limited to #1000, minimum of a 60-day supply, whichever is greater.

Insulin - Limited to six (6) bottles or minimum of a 60-day supply whichever is greater.

Topical Steroids - Limited to 120gm, except Dermatologists may prescribe larger quantities.

The above quantity limits are based on directions for use ("take as directed" or other vague directions will result in a single package being dispensed).

Sincerely,
Pharmacy Staff